

## ABSTRACT

Metallic materials are mixed with an organic chelating agent so as to result in a given metal composition to prepare a transparent aqueous solution of organic metal chelate complexes. The aqueous solution is spray-dried to obtain an amorphous powder containing the amorphous organic metal chelate complexes. The powder is sintered to produce a metal oxide. Alternatively, the powder containing the complexes is molded into a tablet to obtain a target, which is used to form a thin metal oxide film.

The present invention provides a metal oxide whose composition and shape of the particle is easily controllable and also provide a target with which a thin metal oxide film of appropriate composition is produced effectively by a laser deposition method.